

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and reexamination and reconsideration of the subject application, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 112, are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 23-44 are pending in this application. Claims 1-22 were previously cancelled.

Claim 23 has been amended to remove quotation marks around "first generation" and to define a first generation random microgel. Support for this amendment is found in the specification of page 4, lines 8-16 of the specification. Claim 25 has been amended to recite the generic name of Vinyl Versatate®. Claim 30 has been amended to depend from claim 23, rather than from claims 1 to 6 which were previously cancelled, and to recite proper claim language for a Markush group. Claim 34 was amended to delete the word polyethylenically and to depend from claim 23. Claim 38 has been amended to be in independent form, to remove quotation marks around "second generation", to recite the process for preparing a first generation random microgel, and to recite the definitions of a first and second generation random microgel. Support for this amendment is found in the specification of page 4, lines 8-16 of the specification and in claim 23 from which it previously depended. Claim 39 has been amended to remove quotation marks around "nth-generation", and to recite the steps for preparing a first generation random microgel, a second generation random microgel, a next generation random microgel and an nth generation random microgel. Support for this amendment is

found on page 6, line 29 - page 7, line 1, page 21, lines 24-30, and page 22, lines 20-27 of the specification. Claims 36 (second claim numbered 36) to 44 were amended as claims 37-45, respectively. Claim dependency for these claims were also amended. No new matter has been added in making these amendments.

The specification has been amended to capitalize the tradename VINYL VERSATATE® and to recite the generic name, vinyl neodecanoate, as required by § 608.01(v) of the MPEP.

35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph

Claims 23, 25, 30, 38 and 39 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regards as the invention.

For claim 23, the Office Action questions what is meant by "first-generation"? The specification describes what is meant by "first -generation" on page 4, lines 8-16 of the specification. Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite the description of a first-generation random microgel.

For Claim 25, the Office Action questions whether "Versatate" is an unacceptable trademark. Claim 25 has been amended to recite the generic compound vinyl neodecanoate.

For claim 30, the Office Action notes the claim depends on rejected claims. Claim 30 has been amended to depend from claim 23, which has been amended as described above.

For claim 38, the Office Action questions what is meant by "second-generation"? The specification describes what is meant by "second -generation" on page 4, lines 8-16 of the specification. Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite the description of a first-generation random microgel.

For claim 39, the Office Action questions what is meant by "nth generation"? The specification described what is meant by nth generation on page 6, lines 9-15 and page 22, lines 20-27 of the specification. Applicants have amended claim 23 to recite the description of a first-generation random microgel.

Claims 24, 26-29, 31-37 and 40-44 have been objected to for depending on a rejected base claim. The claims from which these claims depend have been amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicants therefore request the withdrawal of the rejection these claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Allowable Claims

The Office Action indicates that claims 34-37 and 40-44 are allowed pending an updated search.

In view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited.

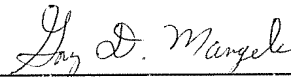
In the event that there are any questions related to this response, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed telephone number concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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